HELL HATH ARISEN

EPILOGUE

SPAWN

WORLD RECORD-BREAKING COMIC!

SPAWN

SPAWN'S UNIVERSE 92 25

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PREVIOUSLY IN *SPAWN*

With the destruction of Hell's preacher, Spawn, his allies, and enemies, have all been exposed to the world.

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YOU'VE DONE YOURSEVES PROUD. EVERY ONE OF YOU.
BUT NOW, MOVING FORWARD, WE'LL ALL HAVE TO DEAL WITH A NEW REALITY.

SO, THANKS FOR COMING TO THIS GATHERING.

THOSE MILITARY 'COPTERS ABOVE, THEY'LL ATTEMPT TO FOLLOW YOU. DON'T LET THEM. DON'T LET ANYONE FOLLOW YOU. ***EVER***. BECAUSE THIS BATTLE WE JUST FOUGHT, IT ***EXPOSED*** US.

THE WORLD NOW KNOWS WE ***ALL*** EXIST. NOTHING WILL BE THE SAME AGAIN. NOT FOR US OR OUR ENEMIES.*

...THE HORROR OF THIS EVENT CONTINUES TO UNFOLD. WE NOW ALL MUST BEGIN TO ASK CONCERNING QUESTIONS, LIKE, WHO ARE ALL THOSE ***COSTUMED*** BEINGS? AND, ARE WE SAFE?

...THE GIANT CREATURE SEEMS TO BE GONE, BUT THE DEATH TOLL IS STILL RISING. WE HAVE TO WONDER, ***WHO*** ARE THOSE THAT HELPED IN DEFEATING THE MONSTER?

HOW MANY OF THEM ***ARE*** THERE? AND ARE THEY GOOD GUYS OR SOMETHNG ELSE? WE USE TO JUST TALK ABOUT AL SIMMONS, THE SPAWN PERSONA, BUT WE'VE HEARD OF ***MORE*** LIKE HIM. AND NOW... ***THIS?!***

* See the past three issues – Thomas

THIS GOVERNMENT. THE MEDIA. THE INTERNET, THEY'RE NOT GOING TO LET THIS GO. NOR SHOULD THEY-- BECAUSE THE UNKNOWN SCARES PEOPLE.
SO, WHAT DO YOU THINK HAPPENS NEXT?
I DON'T KNOW. THAT'S WHY I CALLED YOU HERE, JUST TO GIVE A WARNING.
ARE YOU SUGGESTING WE HIDE?
I'M NOT SUGGESTING ANYTHING OTHER THAN TO BE ON YOUR TOES, EVERY SECOND.
IT USED TO BE WE HAD TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT HEAVEN AND HELL. WE CAN ADD HUMANITY TO THAT LIST, I THINK.

THEY WILL ALREADY BLAME US FOR OUR PART IN THE CREATURE'S DESTRUCTION, BUT WE KNEW THIS DAY WAS GOING TO COME, EVENTUALLY. THERE WERE TOO MANY OF US TO KEEP HIDING IN THE SHADOWS.
I MEAN, TAKE A LOOK! I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHO HALF OF YOU ARE. WE DON'T EVEN KNOW WHO THE GOOD GUYS ARE.

DO WE ACTUALLY TRUST EVERYONE HERE?
WHAT'S HER PROBLEM?

IF YOU RECALL, YOU DIDN'T GET THROUGH THE FORCE-FIELD. SOME OF THEM DID.
AND THEY RISKED EVERYTHING, LIKE ALL OF YOU WOULD HAVE.

FOR A MOMENT, MANY OF THE HEROES ANALYZE ONE ANOTHER, CURIOUS AS TO WHO EACH OF THEM ARE.
THEY SAID YOU WERE INJURED.
I WAS. BUT I'M FINE.

LET ME ASK, WHAT HAPPENS IF WE DON'T GO UNDERGROUND? IF WE LET PEOPLE KNOW WE'RE TRYING TO HELP THEM.
YOU ALREADY KNOW THE ANSWER-- PEOPLE ARE DEAD AND THEY'RE GOING TO PIN THAT ON SOMEONE...
WHO DO YOU THINK THAT'LL BE? US! THEY'RE NOT GOING TO GIVE A SHIT WE SAVED MILLIONS OF LIVES; THEY'RE GOING TO OBSESS OVER THOSE THAT DIED.
AND WORLD LEADERS? THEY'LL EITHER TRY HUNTING US DOWN OR RECRUITING US. EITHER WAY WE'LL HAVE A LIGHT ON US.
WHAT YOU LOOKIN' AT, BOY?
JAVI, IT'S ME, TAYLOR.
YOU LEFT ME. WHY?*
*See Gunslinger #28—Thomas
IT WAS FOR YOUR OWN GOOD, YOU WEREN'T SAFE.
OWWW!
DON'T LISTEN TO HIM, KID...

...DON'T TRUST ANYONE THAT TRIES HOGGING ALL THE KILLING FOR THEMSELVES.
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
YOU NEED SOMEONE IN YOUR LIFE THAT CAN PROTECT YOU...
'CAUSE I DON'T CARE WHAT HAPPENS TO ME.
I'D ADVISE YOU TO STEP AWAY FROM THE BOY.
AND THE COWBOY MAN ISN'T CRAZY ENOUGH.
I SAID, BACK AWAY.

LET ME HELP.
YOUR GUN'S TOO LOW. ALWAYS AIM FOR THE HEAD.
POACHER'S HEARD ENOUGH. HE KNOWS TAYLOR'S ARMS ARE BROKEN FROM HIS ENCOUNTER WITH HELL'S SERVANT.*
THE BOY HAS BEEN THROUGH ENOUGH! NOW DO THE SMART THING AND WALK AWAY!
THE FREAK DOESN'T. HE JUST STARES.
YOU KNOW BEING CRAZY ISN'T A SUPER-POWER?
SO, GO INTIMIDATE SOMEONE ELSE.

POACHER TURNS TO TAYLOR, CONCERNED.
HOW'RE YOUR ARMS, DID SPAWN HEAL THEM?
HE WAS BUSY...
...FIXING FOCUS' NASTY STOMACH WOUND.
I STILL OWE YOU...
...FOR RELEASING ME FROM MY PRISON. YOU NEED TO CALL IN THAT FAVOR, I'LL BE AROUND.
THANKS. BUT IT SUCKS, I DIDN'T EVEN SURVIVE ONE BATTLE.
YOU DID MORE THAN SURVIVE, YOU SAVED TENS OF THOUSANDS FROM BEING KILLED.
HE'S RIGHT. I'M SORRY YOU WERE HURT, BUT WHAT YOU DID OUT THERE SHOWED TRUE COURAGE.

NOW GO HOME AND REST.
SO, THAT'S IT?! YOU JUST KICK ME OUT AND WHAT? *HOPE* I GET BETTER?
DON'T WALK AWAY FROM ME!
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
FOR YOU TO SHOW ME THE *ROPES,* TO HELP ME GET BETTER AT THIS.
YOU WANT A COACH? LET ME GIVE YOU SOME ADVICE, THEN... YOU *DON'T* WANT THIS, *NONE OF IT,* IF YOU'RE PLANNING TO LIVE A LONG LIFE.
HE GETS YOUR MESSAGE, BUT IT'S HIS LIFE AND HE'S YOUNG. LET HIM FIND WHERE THE PITFALLS ARE.
HE'LL GET KILLED.

HALFWAY AROUND THE WORLD
WE'RE AT AN INFLECTION POINT. AND THAT COULD BE *VERY* BENEFICIAL FOR OUR SIDE.
THE WORLD NOW KNOWS HEROES, VILLAINS, AND VAMPIRES CO-EXIST WITH THEM, BUT THEY'RE AT A HUGE *DISADVANTAGE* OF NOT KNOWING WHAT CATEGORY ANY OF US FALL INTO.
BY THE TIME THEY DO, WE'LL HAVE MADE INROADS DISTORTING THOSE PERCEPTIONS, SO *WE'LL* BE SEEN AS THE HEROES.
WON'T THE HUMANS BEGIN THEIR OWN PREPARATIONS?
OF COURSE, THEY WILL.
BY THEN IT'LL BE TOO LATE. SO...
FIND ONE OF MALEBOLGIA'S TRUSTED FLOCK...

"...ONE WHO DISAPPEARED AFTER OUR LORD'S ASSASSINATION."
IT'S TIME TO PAY THE PIPER, JAMES TRUMBO.

AL? GOT A MOMENT?
I'M TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHAT'S GOING ON WITH YOU. YOU'VE CHANGED.
I'M GOOD.
YOU'RE NOT! AND YOU KNOW IT, SO STOP WITH YOUR BULLSHIT DENIALS.
YOU'RE FIGHTING YOURSELF AND IT'S SHOWING. WHY?
OPEN YOUR EYES, THAT'S WHY! THAT F*CKIN' MONSTER WE FOUGHT, THAT WAS NYX. SHE SENT IT, AND SHE'LL DO IT AGAIN. AND AGAIN!
THEN WE'LL STOP IT AGAIN... AND AGAIN.
THERE IS NO "WE." YOU COULDN'T GET NEAR THAT THING. WHICH MEANS I'M ON MY OWN ON THIS.
LET GO OF ME!

I'M GETTING EXHAUSTED FROM TRYING TO TELL YOU HOW GREAT YOU ARE, HOW MUCH YOU'RE NEEDED!
WE'VE ALL GOT OUR OWN LIVES TO WORRY ABOUT. YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE WHOSE GOT FRIENDS AND FAMILY THEY'D LIKE TO PROTECT! WE'D ALL LIKE TO BE NORMAL AGAIN, BUT THAT AIN'T HAPPENING.
SO, WHEN YOU'RE DONE WITH YOUR SELF-LOATHING, THE REST OF US WILL BE WAITING.
JESSICA.
WAIT.
YOU'RE RIGHT. I'M JUST... GETTING TIRED.

I UNDERSTAND, BUT WE'RE ALL TIRED, AL.
LOOK, I WISH NONE OF US WERE NECESSARY, THAT WE COULD ALL QUIT AND GO BACK TO OUR LIVES, BUT WE CAN'T AND PROBABLY NEVER WILL.
SADLY, THERE'S ALWAYS GOING TO BE EVIL.
IT'S BEEN HERE SINCE THE DAWN OF MAN. WHAT DAY IN THE EARTH'S EXISTENCE HAS THERE BEEN TOTAL PEACE? NO WARS. NO FIGHTING. NO ATROCITIES AGAINST THE INNOCENT. THAT DAY HAS NEVER EXISTED. ODDS ARE IT NEVER WILL.
THAT'S WHERE WE COME IN, TO HELP EASE SOME OF THAT PAIN AND SUFFERING JUST A LITTLE. THAT'S OUR JOB.
AL STANDS SILENT, ABSORBING WHAT SHE'S SAYING. FOR NEARLY TWENTY SECONDS THE ROOM IS QUIET. THEN...
THANKS. I NEEDED THAT.

WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME?
WHY'D YOU BRING ME HERE?
I'M GOING TO ASK THE QUESTIONS HERE, JAMES, AND YOU'RE GOING TO ANSWER THEM.
AND THE NEXT WORD YOU UTTER OUTSIDE OF THOSE ANSWERS, I'LL REMOVE YOUR TONGUE.
THEN YOUR HEAD. ARE WE CLEAR?
YES.
YES, WHAT?
YES, MY LORD.
THEY TELL ME YOU WERE *CLOSE* TO MALEBOGIA. IS THAT TRUE?
AT TIMES.
THEY ALSO SAY YOU COUNSELED HIM, *HELPED* WITH PICKING THE HUMANS HE TURNED INTO HELLSPAWNS.
SOME OF THEM.
YOU MUST KNOW WHO I AM. DID YOU HELP PICK ME?
NO. YOU WERE *BEFORE* MY TIME.

I DIDN'T HELP THAT MUCH, REALLY.
YOU'RE BEING MUCH TOO MODEST, JAMES.
WHEN MALEBOLGIA WAS SLAIN, WHY DID YOU FLEE? WHY NOT STAY AND FIGHT?
I HAD MY ORDERS.
I'M SURE YOU DID.
AND I'M GUESSING THAT YOUR MASTER NEEDED YOU TO LEAVE BECAUSE HE HAD A BACK-UP PLAN--A *SURVIVAL* PLAN.
WHY *DIDN'T* YOU IMPLEMENT IT, JAMES?
I COULDN'T.
I DIDN'T HAVE THE POWER TO. IT WAS THE *ONE PIECE* WE MISCALCULATED.
WELL, JAMES, WE'RE GOING TO *FIX* THAT.

"AND WHEN YOU AND I ARE DONE, YOU WON'T HAVE TO HIDE AWAY ANYMORE, OR BE ASHAMED OF YOUR MISTAKE. BECAUSE IF YOU DO EXACTLY WHAT I TELL YOU, ***EVERYONE*** ON THIS PLANET WILL KNOW YOUR NAME.

"THEN I WILL GIVE YOU SOMETHING IN RETURN...

"...I WILL ***RESSURECT*** **MALEBOLGIA,** YOUR ONE TRUE ***LORD*** AND ***MASTER!***"

"HELL'S THRONE BELONGS TO HIM, NO ONE ELSE!"
AND WE'RE RIGHTFULLY GOING SIT HIM UPON IT ONCE AGAIN.
SO, TELL ME, JAMES... CAN I COUNT ON YOUR SUPPORT?
ONE HUNDRED PERCENT.
HAHAHAH

4:0:2:3

SPAWN CROSSOVER GEIGER
RECKLESS EAST OF WEST I KILL GIANTS
THE WALKING DEAD I HATE FAIRYLAND
THE DEPARTMENT OF TRUTH SEX CRIMINALS
KILLADELPHIA BATTLE CHASERS
SAVAGE DRAGON
PRETTY DEADLY BLACK SCIENCE THE WICKED + THE DIVINE
MONSTRESS CHEW SWEET PAPRIKA
GIDEON FALLS
MOONSTRUCK UNDISCOVERED COUNTRY SKYWARD OBLIVION SONG
DESCENDER PAPER GIRLS THE OLD GUARD
INVINCIBLE WANTED BITTER ROOT
STRAY DOGS WHAT'S THE FURTHEST PLACE FROM HERE SNOTGIRL
SAGA KICK-ASS WITCHBLADE ISOLA
INKBLOT
GOD COUNTRY CRIMINAL DIE
FIRE POWER NOCTERRA
HAPPY!
JUPITER'S LEGACY
LITTLE BIRD RAT QUEENS
RADIANT BLACK
ICE CREAM MAN DECORUM BITCH PLANET
DEADLY CLASS MIDDLEWEST

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DON'T MISS THESE ONGOING TITLES!

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KING SPAWN

SCORCHED

GUNSLINGER SPAWN

KING SPAWN #49
SEPTEMBER 2025

GUNSLINGER #47
SEPTEMBER 2025

SCORCHED #45
SEPTEMBER 2025

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